[49 & 50 Vict.]



An Act to dissolve the marriage of Louisa Jane Moore A.D. 1886. Morgan Westropp with Edward Spread Morgan Westropp and to enable her to marry again and for other purposes. [24th June 1886.]

II UMBLY sheweth and complaineth unto Your most Excellent Majesty your true and faithful subject Louisa Jane Moore Morgan Westropp now residing at Douglas House Kilworth in the county of Cork in Ireland that on the 8th day of June 1878 your said subject then Louisa Jane Moore Morgan spinster married with her present husband Edward Spread Morgan Westropp of Ballynolan in the county of Limerick in Ireland and such marriage was duly solemnized according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of Ireland in the parish church of Ardnageely in the county of Cork in Ireland.

That the said Edward Spread Morgan Westropp and your said subject lived and cohabited together as husband and wife from the time of their said marriage until the 24th day of June 1883 and that there were three daughters issue of the said marriage all of whom are now living namely Jane Moore Morgan, Anna Henrietta Georgina and Elizabeth Florence Geraldine.

That from the month of September 1878 up to the said 24th day of June 1883 the said Edward Spread Morgan Westropp was frequently guilty of divers acts of gross cruelty to your subject whereby he caused her to live in a constant state of terror and her health and safety were greatly endangered.

That on or about the 27th day of May 1883 and on divers occasions between that day and the 30th day of June following the said Edward Spread Morgan Westropp committed adultery with one Hannah Roche at the house of a Mrs. Godfrey near Kilworth and at Inchwood near Moore Park all in the county of Cork.

That on the discovery of her said husband's adultery and on account of his continued cruelty and illtreatment of your subject she on the said 24th day of June withdrew from cohabitation with her said husband and has from that time lived apart from her said husband and has not since cohabited with him but has been and now

[Private, n.p.]

A.D. 1886. is residing with her aunt the Lady Jane Moore at Douglas House near Kilworth as aforesaid.

That on or about the 6th day of May 1885 your subject filed a petition in the Probate and Matrimonial Division of the High Court of Justice in Ireland and issued a citation against her said husband and on the 24th day of November 1885 the President of the said Division in delivering judgment stated in effect that it had been proved that the said Edward Spread Morgan Westropp had committed adultery and had treated your subject with legal cruelty and that on either ground alone she was entitled to a decree of separation and he accordingly made a decree of divorce a mensa et thoro with costs against the said Edward Spread Morgan Westropp.

That by an order of the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice in Ireland dated the 27th day of February 1886 the Lord Chancellor ordered that the said infants Jane Moore Morgan Westropp and Elizabeth Florence Geraldine Westropp should remain in and under the care custody and control of their mother your said subject until the further order of the Court.

That the said Edward Spread Morgan Westropp has by his adulterous conduct and cruelty precluded every possibility of reconciliation and dissolved the bonds of matrimony on his part and deprived your subject of the comforts of matrimony unless the said marriage be declared void and annulled by the authority of Parliament:

May it therefore please Your Majesty (out of Your Majesty's goodness and compassion to your said subject's misfortune and calamity) that it may be enacted and be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons in this present Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same as follows namely:—

1. That the bond of matrimony between the said Louisa Jane Moore Morgan Westropp and Edward Spread Morgan Westropp her husband being violated and broken by the manifest adultery of the said Edward Spread Morgan Westropp and by his cruelty to the said Louisa Jane Moore Morgan Westropp be and the same is hereby from henceforth wholly dissolved annulled vacated and made void to all intents constructions and purposes whatsoever and that it shall be lawful to and for the said Louisa Jane Moore Morgan Westropp at any time or times hereafter to contract matrimony and to marry as well in the lifetime of the said Edward Spread Morgan Westropp as after his decease with any man or men she might lawfully marry in case the said Edward Spread Morgan Westropp were actually dead and that any such future marriage or marriages when duly had and celebrated shall be good and lawful and shall be so deemed adjudged and taken in all countries and to all intents constructions and

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purposes whatsoever and that every child born in such matrimony shall be deemed adjudged and taken to be born in lawful wedlock and shall be legitimate and inheritable to and shall inherit any honours manors messuages lands tenements and hereditaments from by or through his or her parents or ancestors and relations and shall and may derive have and transmit titles to any real or personal estates and enjoy all other privileges as if the marriage of the said Louisa Jane Moore Morgan Westropp of which such child shall be the issue had been solemnized after the decease of the said Edward Spread Morgan Westropp.

A.D. 1886.

2. And be it further enacted that the said Louisa Jane Moore Mrs. West-Morgan Westropp shall (unless barred by jointure or otherwise) be entitled to dower and free bench of the lands and tenements of such husband or husbands as she shall hereafter marry whereof he or they shall be seized or entitled and whereof by the laws husband. and customs of this realm she shall be dowable or to which free bench is incident and that such husband or husbands as she shall so marry shall be entitled to be tenant by the curtesy of the lands and inheritance of the said Louisa Jane Moore Morgan Westropp as any other husband may or might claim have or enjoy.

ropp entitled to dower and free bench of lands of future

3. And be it further enacted that the said Edward Spread Morgan Westropp and all persons claiming or to claim by from or under him is and are and shall for ever be barred and excluded of and from all right claim title and interest of in to or out of all lands tenements and estates real personal and mixed and all ornaments of the person and wearing apparel and all goods chattels and personal estate and effects whatsoever which the said Louisa Jane Moore Morgan Westropp now enjoys or is entitled to in possession in her own right or which she shall or may at any time or times hereafter acquire become seized or possessed of or entitled to by descent gift devise purchase or otherwise howsoever during the estate and interest of her the said Louisa Jane Moore Morgan Westropp her heirs executors administrators and assigns therein respectively and that the said Louisa Jane Moore Morgan Westropp her heirs executors administrators and assigns shall and may have hold and enjoy the same and every of them during her and their estate and interest therein for her and their own proper use and benefit exclusive of the said Edward Spread Morgan Westropp his heirs executors and administrators and all and every other person and persons whomsoever claiming or to claim by from or under him.

E. S. M. Westropp excluded from rights to property of Mrs. Westrop

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